FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS) PROJECT FACT SHEET

ORIGINAL DATE: 20 SEPTEMBER 95 TAG REVIEW DATE: 7 MAY 1997

1. SITE NAME: Harvard Precision Bombing Range No. 2

SITE NUMBER: B07NE005200

LOCATION:

City: Ansley

County: Custer County State: Nebraska

PROJECT NUMBER: B07NE005201

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 4

ASR RAC: 4

TAG RAC: 4

2. POC'S:

GEO DISTRICT POC:

Name: Bob Dworkin

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HEADQUARTERS POC:
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SUPPORT DISTRICT (ASR) POC: ASR TAG REVIEW POC:

Name: Scott Barton Name: C. Fredrick Girard Office: CELMS-PM-M Office: SIOAC-ESL Phone: 314-331-8844 Phone: 815-273-8849

- 3. SITE DESCRIPTION: Harvard Precision Bombing Range No. 2, also known as Ansley Precision Bombing Range No. 1, was located about 12 miles southeast of Broken Bow and three miles northwest of Ansley, in Custer County, Nebraska. Based upon the Real Estate records available from the Omaha District, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, in 1943, the United States acquired a total of 2,532.35 acres of lease land from eight owners. On 20 May 1946, the site was classified as surplus to Government needs and all leases were terminated between 14 October 1946 and 7 January 1947. Before its acquisition, the site was used as grazing land for cattle. After being declared surplus in 1946, the site once again reverted to grazing land and today, it is still used for cattle grazing.
- **4. SITE HISTORY:** Harvard Army Air Field was a major WW II training center for bomber crews of the 2nd Air Force. Between 1943 and 1945, twenty six bombardment squadrons received proficiency training at Harvard. Harvard Precision Bombing Range No. 2 was a low altitude practice bombing range. From 1943 to 1946, aircrews flying out of Harvard and Kearney Army Air Fields used it for training purposes. The only government constructed improvements on this site consisted of three towers, a generator house, and some targets. Training included the dropping of M38A2, 100 lb. practice bombs on the site. Archival and historical research does not indicate that high explosive bombing activity or Chemical Warfare Materials usage ever occurred on this site. This range was cleaned up before being disposed of as surplus government property. A Certificate of Clearance was issued on 3 July 1946.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area: Size, Acres: 2532.35

Former Usage: Target area
Present Usage: Cattle grazing
Probable End Usage: Same as above

Ordnance Presence: Confirmed

Type: Bomb, 100 lb. Practice, M38A2, w/Spotting Charge, M1A1

6. CURRENT STATUS:

The Archives Search Report (ASR) for Harvard Precision Bombing Range #2 was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in September 1995.

7. STRATEGY: EE/CA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

a. The TAG concurs with the recommendation for a low priority EE/CA for the entire site since there was confirmed debris from M38-series practice bombs encountered by the SI Team during their inspection.

- b. Page 6-1, para 6.2 states: "Sections 17, 19, and 20, T16N, R18W were thoroughly searched for practice bomb fragments and other evidence of past WW II training. Only on Ferguson property in Section 16, did the team observe and photo practice bomb fragments." Plates 2 and 3 do not include Section 16 as part of the study area and Plate 3 refers to Photos 3 through 9. There are only 6 photos.
- c. There are known Federally-and State-listed species occurring in the site area. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species or natural communities.
- 9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only